



Interurban Competition in the Global Economy

This research seeks to understand the implications of interurban competition for international and national stability and instability. The scope includes, first, the interrelationships and spatial structures of interconnected networks, including networks of knowledge and innovation and, second, the relative roles of hard networks, such as infrastructure, and of soft networks, or the networks of human interaction.

This research will examine the nature of the global urban system and its world cities, gateway cities, and "new network cities" in the context of national and international stability and instability. This research will work to understand cities in their national and global contexts through three tasks. First, utilizing the details in the literature on world cities, I will identify stable, less stable, and unstable cities. Second, cases of intra-nation competition and recent or impending shifts in power between cities will be identified. Third, the effect of the Internet on world cities and determination of competitive shifts upward or downward in power and influence will be identified. Finally, new hubs in global networks will be identified. Taken together, this research will lead to greater knowledge of the role of competitiveness in urban development at the global scale, and will produce preliminary empirical data for major cities.

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